

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00
DLOS-09 OES-09 /055 W
-----104800 160844Z /10

R 160735Z AUG 78

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1957

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0695

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: DAMAGE OF EGYPTIAN GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITIES AT ALEXANDRIA

1. ABOUT 0900 AUGUST 13, M.V. GOLDEN VENTURE, A LIBERIAN FLAG VESSEL, ACCIDENTALLY STRUCK AND DAMAGED THE GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITIES AT THE GRAIN SILO AT THE PORT OF ALEXANDRIA WHILE IT WAS LEAVING BERTH NO. 84. THE VESSEL HAD JUST OFFLOADED 16,000 TONS OF PL-480 WHEAT AND WAS LEAVING ITS BERTH WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF TWO TUGS, WHEN THE LINES FROM THE TUGS TO THE SHIP PARTED AND THE SHIP WAS BLOWN BACK INTO THE CENTER OF THREE UNLOADING UNITS. THE DAMAGE TO THE CENTER WAS EXTENSIVE ENOUGH TO PRECLUDE THE CONTINUED FUNCTIONING OF THE OTHER UNITS.

2. THE MANAGER OF SILO AFFAIRS IN ALEXANDRIA, MR. MOHAMED SALAH NAGA, INFORMED THE CONGEN THAT THE COMPANY IS WAITING FOR THE SURVEYOR'S REPORT TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE. MEANWHILE, THE GOLDEN VENTURE IS BEING HELD IN THE PORT, WAITING FOR THE OWNER TO POST A BOND FOR ITS RELEASE. MR. NAGA ADDED THAT THE GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITIES WILL REMAIN INOPERABLE UNTIL REPAIRS HAVE BEEN EFFECTED.

3. COMMENT: THE GRAIN OFFLOADING EQUIPMENT DAMAGED WAS THE ONLY EFFICIENT OFFLOADING EQUIPMENT IN THE PORT AND HAD THREE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITS, EACH CAPABLE OF OFFLOADING 2,000 TONS PER DAY. WITH THIS EQUIPMENT OUT OF SERVICE, RECOURSE TO SMALL EVACUATORS AND HAND-BAGGING WILL BE NECESSARY FOR ALL GRAIN IMPORTS. THIS WILL SERIOUSLY REDUCE THE PORT'S ABILITY TO OFFLOAD INCOMING PL-480 AND OTHER GRAIN SHIPMENTS AND MAY RESULT IN INCREASED WAITING TIME FOR SHIPS WITH SUCH CARGOES CALLING AT ALEXANDRIA -- ESPECIALLY DURING RAMADAN.

4. AID CAIRO MAY WISH SEND EXPERT HERE TO DETERMINE THE
SERIOUSNESS OF THIS ACCIDENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR
INCOMING GRAIN SHIPMENTS. MCCLELLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780856/aaaabum1.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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To: CAIRO
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